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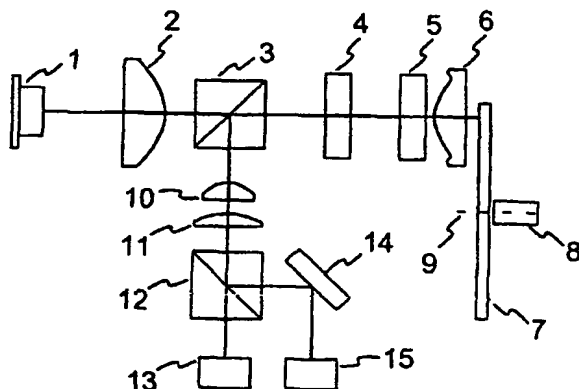
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(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR READING FROM AND/OR WRITING TO OPTICAL RECORDING MEDIA



(57) Abstract: When an optical recording medium (7) having a plurality of data layers is being read from and/or written to, the input beam, inter alia in the top layers of the data layers. To achieve a high data density, a device (4) for correcting the spherical aberration is located in the beam path. When an optical diode is just in which the input and reflected beams have perpendicular directions of polarization, such a device (4) is expensive to implement and associated with a reduced optical efficiency. An apparatus for reading from and/or writing to optical recording media is proposed, in which high optical efficiency and balancing of the spherical aberration are achieved with low outlay. The device (4) for correcting the spherical aberration is set up such that the reflected beam traverses it uninfluenced, whereby means (12, 16, 19) for correcting the imaging of the reflected beam onto at least one detector unit (13, 15, 17, 18, 20) are provided in the further beam path.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X	US 6 172 957 B1 (OGASAWARA MASAKAZU) 9 January 2001 (2001-01-09) column 3, line 47 - column 4, line 18; figure 1	1,2
Y	US 2002/036958 A1 (NISHINO SEIJI ET AL) 28 March 2002 (2002-03-28) paragraphs '0132!', '0134!'; figure 12 paragraph '0124! paragraph '0091! - paragraph '0120!; figures 9,10	1,2
Y	US 5 621 717 A (FINKELSTEIN BLAIR I ET AL) 15 April 1997 (1997-04-15) the whole document	1,2
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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